import and export policy, Government are considering for the closure of STC; and

(d) if not, what would be the function of STC in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Commodity-wise export turnover of STC alongwith value; total import of edible oil, the canalised commodity through STC along with the value for the year 1992-93 are given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below)

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Consequent upon the decanalisation of the import and export of a number of item hitherto canalised through STC, the Govt. have been reviewing the need to reorient and restructure STC in a manner consistent with the liberalised economy and a competitive environment.

Statement

STC: *Exports during 1992-93 and 1993-94*

Value: Rs. Crores

EXPORTS	1992-93 Actuals	1993-94 Actuals
Canalised		
Sugar	8.85	—
Sub-Total (Canalised):	8.85	—
Non-Canalised		
Castor Oil	3.69	—
Jute Goods	2.02	2.37
Rice	6.05	2.60
Tobacco	4.42	9.14
Coffee	11.03	14.01
Spices	16.74	2.23
Tea	8.10	17.23
Extractions	31.71	68.59
Foodgrains (Wheat)	2.89	0.15
Others	2.96	8.98
Natural Rubber	10.59	10.35
Cashew	25.36	33.36
Sugar	—	43.91
Alcohol	17.58	4.94
Molases	0.67	—
Sports Goods	5.63	4.80
Textile/RMG/Coir	13.81	9.86
Consumer Products	10.51	8.52
Engg./Const. Materials	8.72	23.79
Chemical & Drugs	41.23	40.37
Meat & Marine Products	8.61	2.49
Fresh & Processed Foods	1.53	11.44
Leatherware	49.84	44.08
SUB-TOTAL (Non-Canalised):	283.69	363.21
Counter Trade	258.85	434.67
TOTAL EXPORTS	551.39	797.88

Canalised Imports-BBD Palmolein

Year	Qnty. (MT)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1992-93	30,000	39
1993-94	42,000	51

Guidelines to Promote Foreign Consultancy

*390. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated new guidelines to promote foreign consultancy at the cost of Indian consultancy business;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to remove such guidelines; and

(c) what are the details of the growth rate of Indian consultancy business during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Foreign exchange earnings on

account of export of consultancy services, including computer software exports, and growth rate during the last 3 years are as under:

Year	Foreign Exchange Earnings (Rs. crores)	Growth rate
1990-91	312	
1991-92	720	130%
1992-93	831	15%
1993-94	1650 (estimated)	98%

Source: Federation of Indian Export Organisations.

Enhancement in Agricultural Exports after GATT

*391. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the prospect of expansion of agricultural exports during the coming ten years following the signing of GATT agreement?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): The Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture envisages (i) the "tariffication" of all non-tariff border measures, a target reduction of 36 per cent in the resulting tariffs and existing customs duties, and a binding of all agricultural duties at the new levels; (ii) a 20 per cent reduction in domestic support measures (expressed in the form of an aggregate measurement of support); and (iii) reductions of 36 per cent in budgetary outlays on export subsidies and reduction by 21 per cent in the quantity of subsidised exports. Adoption of these measures will enhance market access opportunities for agricultural commodities in all countries, both developed and developing, besides having a positive impact on the prices of agricultural products in the world market.

India has a comparative advantage in the production of agricultural commodiites because of our diverse agro-climatic conditions, our reasonable labour costs and the lower import requirements of this sector. The recent exchange rate adjustments and the liberalisation in Export Policy have significantly enhanced the competitiveness of agro-exports. Hence, the country is likely to gain significantly from the more open world trade policy environment in agriculture.

Non-payment of wages by British India Corporation Ltd.

*392. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that British India Corporation Limited, a Government of India Undertaking, has been violating labour laws by not adhering to the stipulated date of payment of wages to its employees and to the employees of its subsidiary or associate Companies;

(b) whether the Undertaking is also not depositing the amount of GPF contribution of the employees regularly;

(c) whether Government have not initiated any action against the management of the Undertaking so far; and

(d) if so, the factors and reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) It is reported that up-to-date payment of wages has not been possible in one subsidiary company (Brushware Ltd.) and also in two associate companies (Champarun Sugar Company and Saran Engineering Ltd.) of the British India Corporation Limited and that there has been default in payment of C.P.F. contributions, on account of severe working capital shortage. While the State Government are the appropriate authorities for initiating action for delay in payment of wages under the Payment of Wages Act,